

# Summary Report of the Steering Group Meeting

**June 18-19, 1997**

**Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory (PMEL)**

**Seattle, Washington**

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## **Meeting Attendees:**

Eddie Bernard - NOAA

Frank González - NOAA

Richard Hutcheon - NOAA

Richard Hagemeyer - NOAA

Chris Jonientz-Trisler - FEMA

Craig Weaver - USGS

Roger Hansen - State of Alaska

Mike Webb - State of Alaska

Richard Eisner - State of  
California

Lori Dengler - State of California

Brian Yanagi - State of Hawaii

Augustine Furumoto - State of  
Hawaii

Beverly Vogt - State of Oregon

George Priest - State of Oregon

Timothy Walsh - State of  
Washington

## **Special Guests:**

Carl Cook - FEMA

Antonio Baptista - Oregon Graduate Institute of Science and Technology

Douglas Gage - U.S. Navy/DARPA

Ruth Barritt - NWS Alaska Region Public Affairs Officer

Robert Kamphaus - NOAA TIME Center

## **1. Program Overview**

A. Bernard reported that all funds had been transferred from NOAA to the five states,

USGS, and FEMA. He produced a matrix of the distribution of funds and described the method used to identify the funds. After some discussion, the method was modified to reflect the benefits to all states. The following matrix was accepted by the group:

## **Distribution of Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Funds by State**

**FY 97 (\$000)**

<b>Goals</b>	<b>Alaska</b>	<b>California</b>	<b>Hawaii</b>	<b>Oregon</b>	<b>Washington</b>
Coordination					
Buoys	\$142	\$142	\$211	\$142	\$142
Inundation Maps	\$39	\$39	\$39	\$137	\$137
Mitigation	\$33	\$33	\$33	\$33	\$33
Seismic	\$195	\$195	\$195	\$195	\$195
Networks					
Total	\$409	\$409	\$478	\$507	\$507
%	18%	18%	20%	22%	22%

B. Bernard reviewed the new additions and modifications to the National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program home page on the Internet. The new address is:

<http://www.pmel.noaa.gov/tsunami-hazard/>

## **2. Coordination Activity**

Hagemeyer led a discussion on the activities to [coordinate and support the states](#). Topics included the distribution of a list of NOAA personnel involved in tsunami warnings and state points of contact to share information, the training session for Warning Coordination Meteorologists (WCM), the distribution of Emergency Management Weather Information Network to Steering Group members, and the distribution of the Tsunami Communications Plan.

Hutcheon gave a presentation on the NOAA Tsunami Warning System and a report on the training session held on May 6-7, 1997, in Anchorage for the nine WCM's.

## **3. Tsunami Detection Buoy**

Bernard reported on the latest developments in constructing the [tsunami detection buoy system](#) for deployment in July 1997. He showed a video of the March 24-25, 1997, test of the system off Honolulu, Hawaii, on the Research Vessel *Moana Wave*. He discussed how the data will be

transmitted through the NOAA GOES satellite to the Warning Centers and PMEL. The data transmitted to PMEL will be placed on an Internet web page for dissemination.

Furumoto presented his ideas on the use of these data in Hawaii tsunami warnings. He showed correlations with historical data to aid in forecasting the potential inundation for Hawaii shorelines.

#### **4. Tsunami Inundation Modeling**

Gonzalez reported on activities to produce [tsunami inundation maps](#) for Washington and Oregon. He discussed the formation of the Tsunami Inundation Modeling Effort (TIME), the purchase of hardware and software to conduct modeling studies and database development. He reported on the progress of map production by the State of Oregon through Professor Baptista of the Oregon Graduate Institute. A specific problem on the use of tsunami models to produce inundation maps was discussed extensively by the group. It was agreed to refer this problem to a technical group to offer options.

Baptista made a presentation on his tsunami models used to produce inundation maps. His model and results can be found on his web page at: <http://www.ccalmr.ogi.edu/projects/oregonian/anim/>. He concluded his presentation with the recommendation that we continue to view models as tools to guide mitigation efforts.

#### **5. Mitigation**

Chris Jonientz-Trisler presented the [report on the activities of the Mitigation Group](#). The [matrix](#) approach of compiling an inventory of tsunami hazard mitigation activity for each state was supported by the Group. She will work to complete the inventory by July 1.

Lori Dengler reported on the [Strategic Plan for Hazard Mitigation](#). She hopes to have the plan finalized by September 1, 1997.

#### **6. Seismic Upgrades**

Weaver led the discussion on the seismic upgrade activities in the [CREST report](#). This prompted several questions about disseminating earthquake information to coastal communities. The states would like earthquake information as soon as possible so that communities will understand the hazard of earthquakes felt in their communities. The problem along the coast is when an earthquake is felt is it a small local earthquake or a large earthquake in the region. If it is a large earthquake in the region, they want to know if it is inland or offshore. After extensive discussion, the group asked that Hagemeyer and Weaver explore the possibility of using the NOAA weather wire as a mechanism for disseminating the

earthquake information.

## **7. Public Affairs Working Group**

Ruth Barrit discussed the activities of the Public Affairs Working Group. The group accepted her recommendation for her to be placed on the tsuhaz mailing list.

## **8. TIME Dedication Ceremony**

Beverly Vogt reported on the [TIME Dedication Ceremony](#). She complimented all participants and declared the ceremony a success based on activity since May 17. She felt that Bernard's video presentation on the 1993 Okushirii tsunami should be developed into an educational video. The group asked Bernard to proceed with its development.

## **9. FY 98 Plans**

Brian Yanagi led a discussion of state support for the Program. He distributed copies of letters of support from Alaska, California, Hawaii, and Washington.

## **10. Meetings of Interest**

CREW - fall 1997, Portland - contact Chris Jonientz-Trisler

WSSPC - November 4, 1997, Victoria, B.C. - contact Brian Yanagi

## **11. Future meeting**

The group tentatively agreed to an October 15-16, 1997, meeting at PMEL in Seattle, Washington, to discuss FY 98 activities.